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Briefs: Spire sued by neighbors

November 29, 2007 DEVELOPMENT SUIT:

Spire neighbor sues over excavation



A condominium association next to the proposed 150-story Chicago Spire sued the building's developers Wednesday to keep them from building an underground parking garage. The garage would extend beneath the property of the RiverView Condominium Association on North Water Street. The association said it never granted an easement for that purpose and that the construction could damage its buildings. It said the developers were fraudulently using an easement granted for utility lines. The spire's investors include Shelbourne Development Group Inc., which could not be reached for comment.

SHAREHOLDERS' BIG CHEESE:

Disney hikes cash dividend 13 percent

Walt Disney raised its annual cash dividend by 13 percent to 35 cents a share, payable Jan. 11 to shareholders of record Dec. 7.

MEDIA:

Sun-Times parent awarded \$6 million

The Canadian holding company that served as the nerve center of media mogul Conrad Black's newspaper empire, Ravelston, was fined \$7 million Wednesday and ordered to pay \$6 million in restitution for its part in a massive shareholder fraud. The \$6 million restitution is to be paid to Sun-Times Media Group, parent of the Chicago Sun-Times. under federal Judge Amy J. St. Eve's order. But Ravelston has so many debts and so little money that there is doubt that either the fine or restitution will ever be paid, company officials said.